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LETTER DATED 7 NOVEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Independent States, adopted at the meeting of the Council in Yalta, Ukraine, on 8 October 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr YEL'CHENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Independent States

The Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Independent States considers the so-called presidential elections and "referendum" in Abkhazia, Georgia, illegal, as flouting the will of the international community, particularly Security Council resolution 1255 (1999) of 30 July 1999, which emphasizes that the holding of self-styled elections in Abkhazia, Georgia is "unacceptable and illegitimate".

The holding by the Abkhaz side of elections and a "referendum" is not conducive to the settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, and complicates the search for mutually acceptable solutions regarding the status of Abkhazia.